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MACTUPP AWARDED TWO 2004 NACo ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

(Phoenix, AZ) The National Association of Counties (NACo) has awarded two programs from the Maricopa County Tobacco Use Prevention Program (MACTUPP) with 2004 NACo Achievement Awards, which recognize improvement in management of services and programs that county governments provide.

The first award, **Smoke Free in 2003**, involved partnership between MACTUPP and Scottsdale Healthcare System (SHCS) to provide technical assistance in establishing a totally tobacco free healthcare system. The **Smoke Free in 2003** program helped SHCS become the singular hospital system in the Phoenix metropolitan area to become smoke free. MACTUPP worked with SHCS to write the policy and protocols for the tobacco free campus as well as develop all printed materials. MACTUPP also facilitated the training of the nursing staff on tobacco issues and nicotine replacement products for patients.

The second award for the **Comprehensive, Cost-Effective and Inspiring: MACTUPP's Prevention Program**, a successful, flexible, research-based early education program that prevents the serious health damage caused by tobacco use. MACTUPP partnered with 236 countywide schools providing 10,500 students in the fourth through eighth grades with intensive prevention education. The program lasts 10 to 15 hours per year and encompasses a wide range of activities designed to strengthen and deepen students' learning. The program also includes a powerful, attention-getting teen theater production, *Tobacco: The Musical*.

Donna Beedle, Program Director of Maricopa County Tobacco Use Prevention Program says, "We are pleased to receive these awards. MACTUPP has directly contributed to Arizona's 22% decline in youth smoking rates since 2000."

About Maricopa County Tobacco Use Prevention Program (MACTUPP)

MACTUPP provides leadership, education and support to all residents, communities and businesses to create tobacco-free environments. MACTUPP offers free smoking cessation classes throughout the valley where participants learn techniques to help them quit, receive support needed to be successful and also receive 50% off nicotine replacement therapy. For more information, please call 602-372-7272 or visit our website at <http://www.mactupp.org>.

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